

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re:

Serial No.: to be assigned Filing Date: January 7, 2002

Entitled: **SYSTEM AND APPARATUS FOR THE STORAGE AND DISPENSING OF ITEMS**

Applicant: Broadfield, et al. Atty. Docket No.: PYX3019C1

Prior Appl. Nos.: 1) 09/087,388 Examiner in Prior Appls. G. Crawford  
2) 09/589,552

Prior Appl. Filing Date:	1) ('388) May 29, 1998	Art Unit in Prior Appl.	3651
	2) ('552) June 7, 2000		

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
BOX – PATENT APPLICATION (FEE)  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.10(A)**

Date of Deposit: 1/7/02

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Jennifer Warner

# PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are filed contemporaneously with a Utility Patent Application Transmittal form for a continuation patent application of prior application serial nos. 09/087,388 (which is now U.S. Patent No. 6,116,461) and 09/589,552 (which will be U.S. Patent No. 6,338,007). Entry of this Preliminary Amendment prior to calculating the filing fee and consideration of this application is respectfully requested .